

Will Alicia Keys win a Grammy in 2002?

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Memento, starring Guy Pearce, is A&E Editor Alan C. Beard's pick for best film of 2001.

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The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment

Nation observes civil rights leader's 16th holiday Jan. 21

By **Jennifer Mitchell**
Community View Writer

The observance of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday will celebrate its 16th birthday as a national holiday Monday, Jan. 21, 2002. The day will be used to honor King's 73rd birthday.

The first national celebration of the minister, author and civil rights leader's birth took place on Jan. 20, 1986, after the signing of the bill into a law by President Ronald Reagan. The law declared the third Monday of January a national holiday and was signed into existence on Nov. 2, 1983, 15 years after Dr. King's assassination and following many years of deliberation. Coretta Scott King was present for Nashville's first celebration and annual march.

"It was greeted with mixed reactions," said Dr. Harriette Bias Insignares, professor of communications at Tennessee State University. "In some areas of the country children were let out of school- others let children go if they brought a note from

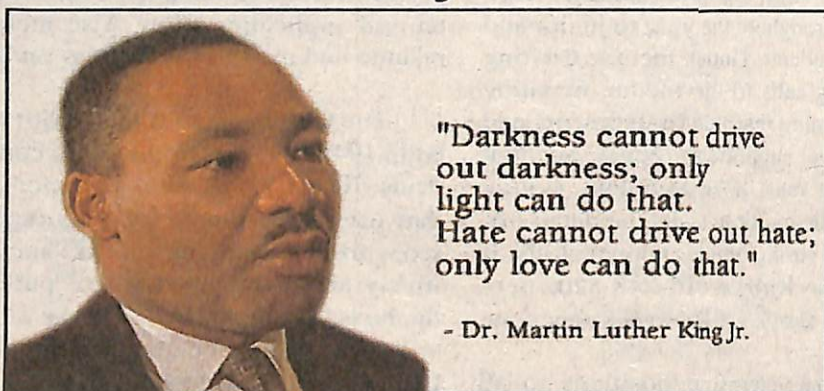


PHOTO COURTESY OF SEATTLE TIMES.COM

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

home for a celebratory event. Some states didn't celebrate the holiday."

Insignares, who is also Tennessee's Official State Poet, composed a poem in honor of Dr. King titled, "The Dreamer's Beatitudes." The poem is on display at the downtown campus of TSU and it was signed by former governor Lamar Alexander.

"I am gratified that Martin Luther King was awarded a national holiday in this country," Insignares said. "It was unprecedented."

"I just hope it will never be commercialized away from its true significance, as a reminder of the ideals that Dr. King tried to instill into the country and the hopes for Americans to reach their true potential by assuring that all people are treated with respect, dignity and protection of their unalienable rights," she said.

Before the law was passed, a bill was introduced to the House of Representatives and it was debated and discussed prior to passing. The House voted 338 to 90 and when it was sent to the Senate, years later, it also passed. Opponents of the King holiday argued that there were other Americans that deserved a national holiday, and that the closing of schools, post offices, banks and federal offices, would cost the government approximately \$8 billion.

"I feel that if other Americans want a holiday then they should petition for their person to get one," said Damion Pearson of Memphis.

"It's good it was a made a holiday," said Detroit native Fallon Calhoun. "He deserved it after all he went through for the Black community."

Dr. Martin

Luther King Jr. is one of four Americans to be honored with a national holiday. In honor of his life achievements, TSU is having a tribute to him on 7 p.m. in the Floyd-Payne Campus Center. Vanderbilt University is hosting a series of activities and lectures from Jan. 14- Jan. 29. For more information on lectures contact, Vanderbilt University at (615) 322-2457 and for information on the march contact, the Office of Civil Rights Compliance (615) 741-7300.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day Commemorative Convocation
Noon Monday, January 21, 2002, Gentry Center, immediately following the march

1st ever Historically Black Colleges and Universities Think Tank to be held at TSU

By **Dywan Brown**
News Writer

This semester, Tennessee State University will have its first "HBCU Student Think Tank," which is expected to become an annual event. The "Think Tank" is chaired by junior Jamie Riley, from Cincinnati, and is hosted by TSU's Student Government Association and its National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) chapter. It will begin on Friday, Feb. 22, and will end on Sunday, Feb. 24.

This event originated as an idea from the officers of the National Association of Student Government Officers (NASGO). This organization consists of all student government associations from all 117 HBCUs. In the summer of 2000, a conference titled National Association of Students and Professionals (NASAP) held at Bowie State University, which consists of student governing bodies from all historically Black colleges. Members at NASGO developed the idea of an event that would bring back unity among HBCUs. The idea also was thought of to show the aggressiveness of young Black students. At the conference there was a vote for who would chair the event and at what university it would be held. Jamie Riley was selected to be the chair of the conference and with that, TSU was automatically counted in. The focus of this event is to show that Black colleges are strong and stand for what they believe in when it comes to their individual heritage. TSU was selected because it is the biggest of all HBCUs in the states, and also because TSU is most centrally located. During the three day event, there will be an array of social events, seminars for the students, and influential speakers. Speakers expected to participate will include the poet of "Black Statue of Liberty," Jessica Care Moore; a founding member of the Black Panther Party, Bobby Seale; a motivational speaker, Dr. Sonia Sanchez and a young Black leader, Ayinde Baptiste. "Ending Violence on HBCU Campuses," "Greek Leadership," "Sex" and "Are HBCUs of

Importance" will be some of the seminars held for students. Expected participation will be from students from various Black universities, and students from TSU.

SGA representative Kwesi Johnson hopes that this event will allow larger schools such as FAMU, Howard, Hampton and TSU to become more knowledgeable about smaller private institutions like Voorhees College and Claflin University.

"I personally am excited about this event and hope that we get full support from our own TSU family," Johnson said. He also feels that when people speak of HBCUs, they are producing great African Americans and all 117 colleges are in a similar struggle to excel together. Johnson's statement complies with the theme for the "Think Tank," "One Struggle, One Battle, One Survival."

For the 1st annual event, there are expectations of how it will impact HBCUs.

"The goal of this event will be to improve communication within all Black universities," Riley said. After this event there are hopes of starting a United Negro College Fund for young Black students and to establish more Africana Studies Programs.

Many in the TSU body feel that this will be a successful event. "I feel that this will be a great opportunity for Black college students to network with each other," said Charles Galbreath, Sophomore Class Representative. He strongly feels that this will let student leaders show their ability to network, plan and follow through with historic events. With the "Think Tank," students feel that this shows love for their own race and proves an important point.

"I love my Black people and I know that anything we work hard at can't be anything but successful," said Kenneth Taylor, a graduating senior and Representative at Large. "Just look at history."

Students interested in attending the "Think Tank" can contact the SGA office at 963-5655. Please direct messages to Jamie Riley to receive information or registration forms.

Plan Your Future Today

There are endless opportunities for internships, scholarships and part-time employment. The lists below are just a portion of what is available to college students. The Career Center and the Web are two main places to look when searching for money for college, employment while in school or internships to sharpen your skills in a given field. Start your search here and plan your future!

Internships

The Institute for Women's Policy is offering summer 2002 internships in research, communications and outreach and development. People of color are encouraged to apply, as well as social work and sociology majors. Interested parties must have good computer skills, excellent written and communication skills and an interest in women's issues. The internships begin in May or June and last a minimum of 10 weeks. The positions are full time with a stipend of \$100 per week. Applicants must submit a letter of interest, a resume, a letter of recommendation and writing samples. For more information, contact the Tennessee State University Career Center at ext..5981, suite 304 FPCC.

Spring Internships are available at the Federal Aviation Administration. Engineering, Computer Science, Business, Accounting and Math majors are needed. For more information, contact Dr. Jackie Taylor or Mrs. Janice Burton at (301) 650-2440.

The Nashville Civic Design Center offers year round internships to students or recent grads with a background in planning, architecture or landscape architecture, however, no prior knowledge of urban design or planning is required. The positions are full time and paid, and students will be able to work on design center proposals with professional architects, landscape artists, city planners and developers, the University of Tennessee, Vanderbilt and the office of the Mayor. For more information call 615-248-4280

The Women, Law and Development International offers fall, summer and winter internships for students with a background in women's issues. Candidates must have good research, writing, communication and orga-

nizational skills. The positions are not paid, but students can receive academic credit. A \$40 stipend is provided for travel expenses to and from the office. For more information, contact the TSU Career Center, ext.. 5981, suite 304 FPCC.

Katcher Vaughn & Bailey, a public relations firm, offers paid internships throughout the year to junior and senior public relations students. Duties include drafting media materials, making calls to the media, updating media databases, performing research assignments and providing administrative support to KVB account teams. Interested parties must have excellent writing skills, the ability to handle multiple tasks, be detail oriented, creative and have strong organizational skills. If interested, contact Lindsay Kirby at 615-248-8202 or e-mail resume and writing samples to lkirby@kvbpr.com.

Microsoft offers four internship positions to all majors including program manager; software design engineer; software design engineer in test and software test engineer. Some requirements for all of the positions are creativity, problem solving skills, a passion for technology, customer focus and being detail oriented. For more information, contact the career center, ext..5981, suite 304 FPCC.

Scholarships/Contests

National Science Foundation Scholarships are available for ethnic minority students majoring in computer science, computer technology, engineering, engineering technology and mathematics. Freshmen, sophomores, juniors and graduate students are eligible. All applicants must complete an application form, a brief essay and obtain two science references. For more information, contact Mrs. McCauley at 963-5138 or see Dr. Marsha Williams. Forms can be picked up in room 140 of the LRC.

The Xerox Company offers the Technical Minority Scholarship Program for minorities pursuing an undergraduate degree in Chemistry, Engineering, Information Management, Physics or Material Science. Eligible candidates must be of an ethnic minority (African-American, Asian, Pacific Island, American Indian, Native American, Alaskan or Hispanic), have a

GPA of 3.0 or better and be enrolled as a full time student in any of the above mentioned areas. Qualified students can receive up to \$1,000 per year depending on tuition costs, your level of academic excellence and any other funding you may be receiving from other sources. To apply, go to <http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads/5a56.htm> to download the cover letter and application form. Also include a copy of your resume and mail to the address on the website.

The Christophers, a non-profit organization founded in 1945 is sponsoring a video contest for college students. The Christophers is a non-profit organization that uses mass media to encourage all individuals to recognize their unique abilities and to use them to positively affect the standards of public life. This year's theme is "One Person Can Make a Difference." Entries will be judged on content and the ability to capture the theme, artistic and technical proficiency and adherence to all contest rules. First place will be awarded \$3,000, second place will be awarded \$2,000, and third place will be awarded \$1,000. There also will be five certificates awarded for \$100 each. For more information, visit www.scholarships.com or www.christophers.org/contests.html.

Career Fairs

Vanderbilt University's Spring Career Fair will be held from 1-5p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 29. The event will be located in the Branscomb Quadrangle on the Vanderbilt University Campus.

The Career and Employment Center will host a summer jobs and internships fair from 12-3p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 30 in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building on the campus of Middle Tennessee State University.

WSM Radio is sponsoring a winter job fair from 9a.m.-7p.m., Monday, March 11, at the Radisson Hotel on McGavock Pike. There will be local employers in various fields. Bring plenty of resumes and dress professionally. **List compiled by Raynata Y. Reed**

TSU Yearbook Photos

Photos by Photiques, Katrina S. Coomer, photographer

March 11 & 12 Downtown Campus 8:30 -4:30 Lobby

March 13 Main Campus 8:30 -4:00 Kean Hall 040

All Students, Seniors, Faculty and Clubs

Photo packages can be ordered by anyone

Payment due at time of photo

Payment terms: cash or check only

Look for flier & order forms in Student Activity Center and in *The Meter*

News

The Student Government Association finishes the fall semester by planning for the spring

By Raynata Y. Reed
and Michelle Denning
News Editor and News Writer

The Student Government Association became more in touch with students during the fall semester and will be busy on a number of different issues during the spring semester, SGA President Damyon Thompson said.

"I think we did an excellent job of becoming more visible with the student body," Thompson said. "We had open body meetings, we held an Aaliyah Day when the singer was killed and we worked with the NAACP and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. to get the Discount Tobacco Store signs removed from across the street near the university entrance."

A series of proposals from different committees on the SGA with current problems and possible solutions were submitted to the administration last semester. The administrators that were present consisted of President Hefner and directors from different departments, including such departments as housing, computer information technology and security.

The library committee, chaired by Ihsan Um'Rami wanted to address the noise level in the library, the fact that some computers don't work, the lack of space due to orientation rooms, graduate study rooms and faculty study rooms and cash to card machines not working. The library committee also wanted to get a copy of every textbook available for students in the reference section of the library. According to Um'Rami, it was not possible to get the books because there was not enough money in the budget and students might damage the books. The alternative to buying the textbooks would be to join a program where students have access to entire textbooks through an Internet site. Long term goals of the committee include expanding the library with another floor or to widen some of the study rooms and to look into the textbook Web site. Above all, student opinion is imperative.

"There are not a lot of students complaining about what they do and don't like," Um'Rami said. "We do need more student input and a good way to do that would be if more students filled out the library surveys that are available online."

The housing committee, chaired by Angela Moore, saw problems in the residence halls being locked at midnight, the lack of card to cash machines, washers and dryers in the dorms and the lack of security around the dorms. As for solutions, the committee asked for a working keyless entry system, cash to card machines in each dorm, more washers and dryers in Hale Hall and that Hankal be included in the parking lot security patrol.

The housing committee also wanted to have a series of "Queen Teas" with the university's organizational queens, but was unable to organize all of the queens to carry out this event. The housing committee did hold seminars in October and November in Watson and Wilson Hall titled "Treat Her Like a Lady," and "Just Be a Man About It." The freshmen held a three-day event on relationships that Moore cites as "very successful and productive."

Moore and her committee are working on providing online housing applications and are speaking with system administrators to have the online applications by March.

The Building and Grounds Committee, chaired by Kwesi Johnson, wanted a security booth for Wilson Hall, more lighting on campus and in buildings and trash containers emptied in a timely manner. For the spring semester, there are plans to work on the buildings, including fixing the broken chairs in the Kean Hall, as well as improving the lighting in the Graduate Building and the Women's Building. Another campus and community cleanup is being planned, similar to the campus cleanup during homecoming. The Building and Grounds Committee also aided in installing new lighting and benches in the courtyard near the Floyd Payne Campus Center. The biggest goal of the Building and Grounds Committee is to work on getting more students involved in campus and community

clean-up days.

The Food Service Committee, chaired by Courtney White, takes complaints from students and talks to the people in charge about food issues. For this semester, the committee is planning to have a carnival, possibly in February. The Food Service Committee also plans to address the attitudes of workers in the sub and improve student behavior while in the sub. "There is a definite problem with the amounts of trash that are accumulated in the sub at night," White said. "The attitudes of sub workers would probably improve if they had fewer amounts of trash to pick up at night causing the workers to have to stay at work later."

The meeting with the administration and the SGA was held in November and Thompson states that the administration was open to most of the proposals. Another meeting is due early this semester as well to follow through on any areas not yet addressed.

The Scholarship Committee also gave over \$10,000 in scholarships to help students buy textbooks.

The SGA also is working to improve the quality of the technology services on campus.

"I definitely want to see better communication with CIT and the student body," Thompson said. "There needs to be some way that students are informed on problems with the computer systems because it affects us in a major way."

For this semester, the first annual Historically Black Colleges and Universities Think Tank will be held in February, and SGA sponsored giveaways and speaker events are being planned. Thompson states that there is another problem that the SGA is still battling.

"Student apathy is still a big problem," Thompson said. "We need more students to come to open body meetings and fill out complaint forms. In that area, we still have a long way to go."

For information on the SGA and their current projects, officers can be reached at 963-5655.

Got news?

If you have

news that

affects

TSU,

contact

News Editor

Raynata Y.

Reed at

963-5649.

ATTENTION SENIORS!!!

Those who are graduating in May, August or December 2002 should see their department head immediately for advisement on graduation.

Plan ahead!

File if you intend to graduate in May, August or December now!

Only students who have met all graduation requirements will be permitted to participate in commencement ceremonies!

The Meter

The Measure of Student Opinion and Sentiment
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CIRCULATION 3,000

The Meter is a student publication that does not necessarily reflect the views of the administration of Tennessee State University.

The Meter capitalizes the letter "B" in the word "Black" when it refers to people of African descent in accordance with the Oxford American and other dictionaries.

What We Think

Happy New Year! Out with the old and in with the new! That goes for this new academic semester, as well. We can all reflect back on past mistakes that were committed in the previous semester like not conferencing with your professors more and beginning to study for tests a week in advance. But that is what New Year's resolutions are all about aren't they?

It seems to many students that the Spring Semester normally passes quicker than the Fall Semester--that wouldn't be because of the hype of the Greek weeks, now would it? For those who are guilty of this fault, let's not forget to focus on what should be the number one purpose of attending college.

For the seniors, the time has finally come. You all are flying away to places and lands that rise above the coveted walls of Tennessee State University. The frustrations of registration lines, holds and cancelled classes are over. By no means does that mean your life is about to become easier. No sir and madam. That simply means that you have overcome this small feat. Now the good stuff begins.

Before May arrives, check with your assigned advisors to ensure all credits and classes have been properly placed on your transcript. You can also check yourself by logging onto pipeline and selecting degree audit. This displays all courses taken and whether or not you have satisfied your particular requirements.

Also, it is now the most crucial time that you begin to solidify your post education plans whether it be continuing your education in graduate or professional school or entering the workforce. Take advantage of the resources that TSU is offering you. So many people are quick to examine the negative aspects because of personal experiences or lack of them. Go to the Career Development office as

well as the Office of Graduate and Professional Opportunities and speak with office personnel. Don't let the fear or lack of funds prohibit you from applying for graduate studies. There are many types of monies out there available to and for you especially if you are a minority. There is no reason on this earth that you should not be able to.

For everybody who is not graduating in May or August--internship applications need to be picked up, resumes submitted and cover letters written. There are many people who meet the qualifications, but they are what we call procrastinators.

What We Think
is a reflection
of
The Meter
Editorial Board.
It
examines
things going on
at TSU,
in the
community and
in the world.

From where I sit: FAITH



Henderson Hill
III
Editor in Chief

[IF YOU'RE NOT READY FOR, OR HAVE A HARD TIME UNDERSTANDING LIFE TESTIMONIALS, READING THIS WILL BE TOO MUCH FOR YOU TO COMPREHEND.]

I have a confession to make! Last semester and this past week has almost made me lose my faith, faith in myself and faith in my spirituality. I have already lost 90 percent of my faith in Tennessee State University and most people, but it scares me to think about how I almost lost my faith. I think as college students, especially at TSU, we tend to always ask, "Lord, why is this happening to me?" I pray, go to church, and feel that I'm a good person. But I could never understand why I continued to have more stress than I felt was necessary. Until Friday morning when I had an epiphany-filled conversation with a former Editor In Chief of *The Meter*, and a good friend of mine, Mia McNeil. The two of us talked an hour or so about a mutual acquaintance and some drama that that individual had gone through and still is dealing with. This made me see that my problems could be so much worse than they are.

As I grow as a person, student, adult and dweller of this world I'm understanding that my faith has nothing to do with the people who I come in contact with, because a person's faith is something that is developed just like their personality--It's either strong or weak. My faith has no relation to my fear of failure. Instead when my life gets so bogged down with unnecessary things, my belief is sometimes overshadowed and is therefore tested the most.

As numerous situations passed through my life this semester, I became detached from reality as well as who I was as a person--I lost my way. Drama from *The Meter*, constantly having to shake negative people (that's a shout out to those of you who get a kick out of seeing me as well as others fail), stressful classes and fear of not graduating in May was enough to wear ten of the strongest individuals down.

Webster's Dictionary (the abridged edition) defines faith as: Belief; trust, confidence, conviction in regard to religion; system of religious beliefs; strict adherence to duty and promises; word or honor pledged. The "Good Book" defines faith, in Hebrews 11:1, as: Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. I think that the Bible's definition makes people search more for insight, because it is not an outright answer. Instead it is something that you have to define, redefine and understand for yourself. Basically if you don't have faith in anything, you are not concerned about accomplishing something.

Some people are not as religious as others, which is a personal choice, but my faith in my religion is what keeps me together. This is something that my parents have instilled in me for the past ten years. I am not going to say that you should have a religious foundation, I'm just saying what works for me. But even without religion, you have to come to a point in your life when you focus on what helps you as a person to press on.

I refuse to let anything or anyone block my path to success. Things in my life are beginning to transition drastically; therefore, I have begun to focus on myself and the higher power that I feel will help me gain what has been set forth for me in my life. Self-motivation and prayer are the best way to keep yourself from getting lost in this world. Your prosperity is what you make it, because everyone is more focused on their own success. Some people even get off on seeing you fall short of what you are trying to achieve [I still don't understand, and probably never will, why people get a thrill out of other people failing. Get a life and a clue].

The ultimate key to survival is that no matter how bad you may perceive what is ever going on in your life, realize that we only go through things to make us stronger and to learn how to hold on tighter to our faith. When you endure any challenge in life you always look back on it and see how it changed you. Sometimes the hardest and most negatives we go through are our best teachers. It's almost like having a resume of life. Your qualifications/skills section will read: Experienced in living. It's important to know that you can't run, hide or always seek shelter from the storms of life, because they are inevitable. You have to simply go through them. The positive thing is that storms don't last forever.*

Letters to the Editor

Word of attempted censorship of paper reaches fellow HBCUs and former Community View Editor of The Meter

Opinions Censored in Campus Newspaper

The following submissions are in response to Alan Beard's editorial about President Hefner in the Nov. 7, 2001 issue of *The Meter*.

A columnist at *The Meter*, the student newspaper at Tennessee State University, published an opinion piece criticizing the college president for being inaccessible and hypocritical. The writer, Alan C. Beard, referred to him as Daffy Duck.

In his tirade, Beard pleaded for funding and equipment for the student newspaper and other programs. He asserted that the improvements would make the students more competitive in the job market. Beard suspected his candid assessment would raise the ire of TSU administrators. He prophesied they would censor the newspaper by withdrawing funds, and alerted the readers. However, the administration chose another route. The college president, James A. Hefner, expressed displeasure with the piece, and the adviser's department chair ordered her to proofread the newspaper and to censor any expression that might be questionable. That order by the department chair is in direct violation of the student's first amendment rights. The adviser cannot be a tool of the administration to suppress student expression. Her supervisor should not have issued that directive and the adviser should not have felt compelled to comply. The courts have ruled on similar situations. In every instance, the judges have upheld the student's right to publish. That means to publish what they want even if the writer makes fashion suggestions for the university president. Beard revealed that Hefner plans "to encourage us not to wear do-rags" because they "reflect poorly on the school." He countered by admonishing Hefner to "take off those thick glasses or tight suits because they don't reflect well on this university either." Student publication literature makes it clear that the adviser's role is to teach, train, guide and defend the staff's right to make the final decision. It is a precarious position for the adviser. She must be an advocate for the students and must worry about job security when things go awry. She is a part of the organization, but she is not the editorial decision-maker. She cannot be an adviser/censor. That is an oxymoron. Her role is to foster an understanding of student press rights among the university community. But advisers do have protection. In *Antonelli vs. Hammond*, the editor of a Massachusetts student newspaper published some objectionable words and used "street language." The court ruled that prior review of copy was "an unconstitutional exercise of state power." To me, this case is no different from the Tennessee State case. Beard used the lingo known to students. Yes, he could have been more professional in his criticism. But expression should not be judged for its usefulness or likability. I am sure this whole episode has been a learning experience for all parties, especially the students. And educating students is our business. Valerie White, Ph.D., is the adviser for *The Famuan*. She can be reached at famuanadviser@hotmail.com.

The Meter's former Community View Editor Hillary S. Condon speaks out against censorship of paper

I really don't know what to say. I don't think anyone could argue that Alan could have been just a tad less ghetto in his observations, but think about it if he could have written that editorial in Shakespearean iambic pentameter and Hefner would have been mad. But I stand by what I said, and I'm sure he does, too.

And when you look at that editorial (the first time I saw it

was when you sent it to me ... thanks a lot, Alan), most of his complaints are quite legit. It is difficult for us to get jobs, unless we literally go out and get the jobs ourselves. And quoting the alum who refused to give money to that... administration spoke volumes, too. As for the do-rags, Alan was right there, too. There are no thugs in college that's why they're there. A high hiring rate for graduates would make TSU look better than a few students who rolled out of Boyd without combing their hair, right? As a matter of fact, a better communications department would make TSU look better, too. That department has more interns than any other, thanks, to Dr. Page; and these are the people that TSU sends out to work in the television stations, radio stations, newspapers, and even in the public relations department at TSU itself.

Why is it so hard to make sure that those PR workers, if no one else, get their money's worth? Lord knows that the school needs that good PR when the administration goes acting like the First Amendment doesn't apply to them, or to *The Meter*. And based on his shoddy remembrance of that awesome amendment, Hefner should probably get a few more bucks into the History, Geography and Political Science Department as well. And if you're not aware, let me clarify how Hefner is when he comes up to *The Meter* office.

Just like he waltzed in at Homecoming, hugging me and asking me about my job like he helped me get it that's what he does when there's a family he's trying to impress, or an alumni he's trying to get money out of. That's it. When *The Meter* office is clean (which is rare - it's a good thing he did come at Homecoming, when everyone was expecting company), and the paper is to his liking, it's the pride of TSU, and the jewel in his crown. When it pisses him off, like when it surveys students about him, or asks questions about his effectiveness, or prints stories about his frat have you noticed all of these are about him? *The Meter* should be censored, shut down, stopped from printing. Interesting.

Ms. Foster, I know that *The Meter* is quality, because it has quality people, and it does come from a quality school. But the actions taken by Hefner to silence the voices of those who might speak against him make us all look bad. That means students, alumni, faculty, staff, and the entire community of Nashville, not to mention the journalism community. Stand strong, Alan, and defend your right to say what you like. Speech that everyone agrees with is not the only kind protected by the First Amendment. In fact, it was created to protect those who might speak against leaders.

Peace.

Hillary S. Condon

The Meter Mission Statement

The Meter's mission is to timely report the "highlights and lowlights" of Tennessee State University and its community so that we may foster positive changes in the world around us, while reflecting the university's multi-cultural student body.

Submission Requirements

The Meter is published biweekly and is available free to the Tennessee State University community. Opinions expressed herein are of the writer, not those of the administration, the Student Government Association or the faculty or staff of TSU. The submission deadline is the Wednesday before each issue comes out. No exceptions!

The Meter invites submissions by all members of the Tennessee State University community. Timeliness, clarity of thought, factual accuracy, and interest to the university community will be factors in selecting material for publication.

All materials must adhere to the following guidelines:

- All contributions must be typed, double spaced (submitted on 3.5" disks and hard copy), and must include the writer's name, telephone number and P.O. Box.
- Articles should not exceed 1,000 words, opinions should not exceed 500 words, and letters should not exceed 300 words.
- Sources of factual material should be included. All claims of fact are subject to verification.
- The Meter reserves the right to reject letters, articles or ads without explanation, and to edit others as necessary.

News

News Briefs

College of Engineering Celebrates 50 Years

Tennessee State University's College of Engineering, Technology and Computer Science will be celebrating 50 years of service this winter. This landmark anniversary will be commemorated with a week long celebration from Feb. 17 through Feb. 23, 2002.

Activities during the week will include student poster displays, a variety of lectures, student awards, a career fair and an anniversary dinner on Feb. 23.

In addition to the prestige of celebrating 50 year of service, TSU also is one of the few Historically Black Colleges and Universities across the nation to have a full engineering program. Some of the other HBCUs are Howard University in Washington, D.C., Prairie View A & M in Prairie View, Texas and Southern University in Baton Rouge, La.

TSU engineering graduates have earned various awards through the Black Engineer of the Year program sponsored by U.S. Black Engineer magazine. Students in the department can earn degrees in architectural, civil, electrical and mechanical engineering. Aeronautical technology and computer science also was added to the department.

MLK Celebration Features First Female Bishop

Tennessee State University's annual Martin Luther King Day Celebration will be held at noon on Monday, Jan. 21 in the Gentry Center, and will feature Bishop Vashti McKenzie as keynote speaker. McKenzie was the first female bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. She serves as the 117th bishop of the AME church and is the first female to take on this honor in the church's 213-year history. Her other accolades include being the author of *Not Without a Struggle*, currently in its third printing, appearing in Ebony magazine's Honor Roll of Great African-American Preachers, and being named first of the 15 Greatest African-American Female Preachers. The event is free and TSU students as well as the public are invited to attend.

Car Companies in Tennessee Enhance Economic Climate

In 2001, more than 248 firms announced expansions or new locations in the state of Tennessee, making the state the "Center of the Automotive South." These expansions accounted for almost \$2 billion in announced investments and the creation of 6,000 new jobs. Tennessee also is home to three auto and truck assembly plants, and more than 800 automotive supplier operations.

According to Wall Street Journal, Economy.com, a regional forecasting firm named Tennessee a "bright spot" among only four states in the nation for job growth and industrial development.

Meningitis and Influenza Immunizations Will Be Given at The End of January

Meningococcal vaccines and influenza (flu) vaccines will be available to faculty, staff and students from 1-7 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 31 in room 040, Kean Hall. The fee for the meningococcal vaccine is \$85 and the fee for the flu vaccine is \$20. Students can pay by credit card or personal check, or a bill can be sent to the student's home address. Meningitis is a rare disease, but can be debilitating and potentially fatal. It can lead to permanent disabilities such as hearing loss and brain damage. In recent years the number of cases have dramatically increased, with one third of the cases occurring on college campuses. The flu virus spreads rapidly among students and students face a great risk to this disease each winter. To take advantage of this important initiative, contact Immunization Nurse Elizabeth Frazier in the health center for more information.

TSU-Based Project Receives a \$1.1 Million Technology Grant

A \$1.1 million equipment grant from PictureTel Corporation has been awarded to Tennessee's Diversified Information and Assistance Network (DIANE) Video Consortium, based at Tennessee State University. This information technology network includes educational institutions, nonprofit agencies and other organizations. The grant will provide for portable set-top and room based videoconferencing systems that will allow schools and other organizations to participate in the nonprofit video network.

"Project DIANE really enable the Tennessee State University community to reach so many lives through technology," said President James Hefner. "We are pleased with the \$1.1 million grant that will strengthen what Diane is doing in the state, nation and beyond."*

The Meter

Welcomes back

all students

for

The Spring 2002

Semester

2000 Yearbooks
Available Now
at TSU Bookstore!!!

Come Purchase Yours
Anytime

Community View

Freedom of press remains a right for TSU students

By Tosha Jones

Community View Editor

Free speech and free print continue to be privileges for Tennessee State University student publications after these rights were threatened by administrative control in November 2001.

Pamela E. Foster, director of Student Publications and adviser to *The Meter* staff, rescinded a set of illegal procedures that were mandated after *The Meter* published an opinion piece by Alan Beard Nov. 7, 2001, that harshly criticized the university president and administration.

The administration now plans to write and implement a new set of student publications procedures that is consistent with the rights of free speech guaranteed by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

"I'm glad that the TBR, the administration that is over the president and his administration here, realized and thoroughly understood the concept of the First Amendment right unlike the administrative staff here," said Editor in Chief of *The Meter*, Henderson Hill, III.

"I hope that the rescinding of the policies shows the administration here, namely President Hefner, that it is unfair... to attempt to censor a student publication."

In Beard's article, he referred to Hefner as "Daffy Duck" and described him as "acting all fake." Beard went on to comment that the president's appearance might reflect poorly on the university with his "thick glasses" and "tight suits." He complained that the administration was to blame for the newspaper office being very inadequately equipped to fulfill its responsibilities to the university and that this school catered to only two majors, business and engineering.

In response to this column, Hefner, Student Affairs Vice President Mr. Thomas Martin, and Communications Department Head Dr. Maurice Odine questioned Foster about why she didn't prevent it from going to print. Dean Dorothy Lockridge and other members of the Publications Board, which selects editors and settles disputes for the college newspaper and yearbook, agreed that Foster should have prevented publication.

After presenting to *The Meter*

staff a new set procedures that required her to review all text before print, Foster submitted the policies to the Tennessee Board of Regents General Counsel's office, which is responsible for settling general legal issues for all TBR schools. TBR Assistant General Counsel Lisa Atkins reviewed the procedures and gave a detailed analysis stating why the new guidelines to control the content of the paper were illegal and recommended that they be immediately removed by the student publications director. After repeated attempts to contact Atkins, she said she was unable to comment.

According to the association College Media Advisers, an adviser's role is to "teach without censoring, editing, directing, or producing. It should not be the adviser's role to modify student writing or broadcasts, for it... could severely damage their rights to free expression."

In the Supreme Court case *Tinker vs. Des Moines Independent Community School District*, the court said that student publications couldn't be censored unless it would result in material and substantial disruption of normal school activities or would invade the rights of others. This case, along with numerous others, states that no school official can censor or confiscate student material because it is "controversial, unpleasant, harshly critical of the university, university officials, or university policy, poorly written, in poor style, or in poor taste."

Therefore, the responsibility of the adviser is to screen for violation of libel laws, anything legally obscene, an invasion of privacy, or a substantial disruption of the university (i.e. causing a cancellation of classes).

After the written analysis from TBR and an analysis from the TSU administration, it was confirmed that future censorship of *The Meter* was in violation of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and contradicts numerous journalistic standards.

"I'm glad students and others have a fuller knowledge of journalistic ethics and standards as a result of that column and the procedures we tried to implement afterward," Foster said. "We're here to learn and we did."

Tennessee State University Student Government Association & NAACP Chapter

Present...

The HBCU Student Think Tank

"Ancestry, Legacy, Commitment"
"One Struggle, One Battle, One Survival"

Friday, February 22, 2002

-thru-

Sunday, February 24, 2002

This bracelet was a gift Amber Apodaca received from the center where she helped teens with drug and alcohol problems. She was wearing it when an underage drunk driver took her life.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.



Community View

Dicks of the Pack

What are TSU students' New Year's resolutions?



Adam Yette
Johnson City, TN
Freshman
Undecided Major

"I quit smoking. I used to smoke Black and Milds. I have been smoking them for about five years but I haven't smoked one this year yet. I got the flu and I didn't smoke for a week because I had the flu and since it was New Year's it was like, 'well my resolution is going to be I'm not going to smoke anymore...it was easier and I was like I can finally quit smoking now."



Amber Heater
Nashville
Sophomore
Architectural Engineering

"[My New Year's resolution is] to not make any C's this semester."



Kendal Hoskins
Nashville
Junior
Accounting

"My New Year's resolutions are to obviously get better grades so I can have a 4.0 at least one semester before I leave. And produce my man...he's a rapper, to bring out his CD. Those are my two resolutions."



Aja Mann
Decatur, Georgia
Senior
Health

Information Management
"My New Year's resolution I guess is just to build my relationship with the Lord and get on the right track."

Fast Facts

Did you know that on this day in history...



1) Continental Congress approved Washington's order on the enlistment of free Blacks? (1776)

2) Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. was founded at Howard University? (1920)

3) The War Department announced the formation of the first Army Air Corps squadron for Black cadets? (1941)

4) Harold R. Perry became the second

Black Roman Catholic bishop in U.S. history? (1966)

5) Boxing Champion Muhammad Ali was named the Associated Press Athlete of the Year? (1974)

6) NASA named three black astronauts: Maj. Frederick D. Gregory, Maj. Guion S. Bluford, and Dr. Ronald McNair? (1978)

Source: Black Facts.com®

Do you have reliable transportation?
Are you interested in events that are going on in the Nashville area?
Well, now is your chance to write for the
Community View section of *The Meter*!
Call Community View Editor Tosha Jones at
963-5555.

Community View

Local Food Scores for December 2001 (Scores for January were not available prior to the printing deadline)

(Restaurant, Date Inspected and Score out of 100)

High scores

Hermitage Cafe
71 Hermitage Ave
12-05-01
90

The Rawlings
5395 Rawlings Rd.
12-06-01
94

Sub Depot
500 Deadrick
12-06-01
90

Shadowbrook
5397 Rawlings Rd.
12-06-01
99

Sam's Sushi
200 4th Ave North
12-10-01
92

Kebab Gyros
210 4th Ave North
12-11-01
97

Subway
111 North 1st St.
12-11-01
95

Kien Giang Restaurant
5825 Charlotte Ave
12-18-01
89

Antonio's
7097 Old Harding Rd.
12-20-01
90

Sir Pizza
414 B. South Gallatin Rd.
12-14-01
92

Low Scores

Congo Square
209 Printer's Alley
12-04-01
56 (passed reinspection 12-10-01)

Darlene's Kakes
204 6th Ave. North
12-04-01
55 (passed reinspection 12-17-01)

Herbie K's World's Worst Service
3935 Gallatin Rd.
12-05-01
55 (passed reinspection 12-10-01)

Goten Japanese Steak and Sushi
110 21st Ave South
12-10-01
54

Cancun Mexican Restaurant
2054 N. Gallatin Rd.
12-18-01
58

Pizza Hut
351 N. Gallatin Rd.
12-18-01
54

The Meter

embraces

letters

written to the

editor.

Campus Calendar

Jan. 21
(NO CLASS)
Dr. Martin Luther King Day Tribute in the Floyd-Payne Campus Center Rm. 210 7 p.m.

Jan. 20-26
Sophomore Class Week. 23rd- Sophomore Ambassadors: Forum on Relationships FPCC Rm 210 8 p.m.

Jan. 27-Feb. 2
TSU Campus Radio Week
27th- "Back to the Prom" in The Barn 7 p.m.

Jan. 31
Meningitis Shots in Kean Hall Rm 040 1-7 p.m. (cost: \$85)

Community Calendar

Jan. 2-26
The Nashville Shakespeare Festival presents The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) Wednesdays-Sundays at the Darkhorse Theater 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 5, 26-27
Dollywood is holding entertainment auditions for 2002 season. The team is looking for dancers, singers, technical personnel and musicians to be a part of Dollywood's entertainment package. Auditions will be held at Dollywood in Pigeon Forge on Jan 5, 26, 27 at approximately 10 a.m. For more information call, (865) 428-9486

Jan. 21
Vanderbilt's MLK Commemorative Series
"King on Leadership" in the Owen School of Management Rm 222 1-2 p.m.
Jazz Workshop at the Blair School of Music 2:30 p.m.
Candlelight Vigil at the Benton Chapel. 6 p.m.
Jazz Concert 8 p.m. For more information call, 322-2457

Jan. 24
Lipscomb University Landiss Lecture Series presents author Tony Earley. He will discuss his latest book which is a collection of personal essays titled Somehow Form a Family. Swang Center 3901 Granny White Pike, Nashville 7:30 p.m. (free admission)

The Meter wishes everyone a
Happy New Year
and much success in 2002

Arts & Entertainment

Director's Chair

Top Films of 2001



**Alan C.
Beard**
A&E
Editor

The year was 2001; the buzz was high about a kid named Harry Potter, lords of a ring, a revision of apes and the tragedy of Pearl Harbor. The movies this past year were full of promise but failed to give audiences the satisfaction they

deserve. They didn't give you the feeling, where you're actually glad you paid to see the movie. Some of my top films you may have not seen but their impact this year on the film industry and audiences was truly unforgettable.

1. Memento - This film broke all the rules in 2001 and did it with style. It tells the story of Leonard Shelby a man with short term memory (he can't make new memories) trying to find out who killed his wife. Guy Pearce (*LA Confidential*) is Leonard and plays the role with great wit and conviction. He is aided and misguided in his journey by Joe Pantoliano and Carrie-Ann Moss



PHOTO COURTESY OF DARKHORIZONS.COM

Elijah Wood plays Frodo Baggins the Hobbit entrusted with the one ring that can rule all.

(*The Matrix*). The film itself is told backwards, trying to piece together the puzzle of his life. Director Christopher Nolan does an excellent job weaving this tale, based on a short story by his brother Jonathan. You never really know who's on Leonard's side and at times it's as if you too have short-term memory. It plays with you and makes you pay attention but delivers the kind of suspense and intrigue that is very rare in films today. You will find yourself wanting to see it again and again, just so you won't

ated an awe-inspiring masterpiece. It plays like an opera that moves like the cars, in *The Fast and the Furious*. Nicole Kidman (*The Others*) stars as the beautiful courtesan Satine in the legendary underground night spot circa 1900. She is terrific and from the moment she is introduced, singing Madonna's *Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend*, you can't take your eyes off of her. Ewan McGregor is Christian, a writer who falls in love with her and who's spectacular play will allow her to become a real



PHOTO COURTESY OF DARKHORIZONS.COM

Nicole Kidman and Ewan McGregor are a treat for the eyes in Baz Luhrman's Moulin Rouge.

2. Moulin Rouge - The only word that can describe this film is, beautiful. Baz Luhrman (*Romeo & Juliet*) has cre-

actress. The roadblock for the passion between the two is The Duke of Worcester (Richard Roxburgh), who

See "Yet" on page 15

Arts & Entertainment

Up Close: Golden Globe and Grammy Nominations/Predictions



**Jamarran
E'mil
Moss
A&E
Writer**

The year of 2001 had many twists and turns, ups and downs as well as flops in the entertainment industry. But only the best are nominated. First the Grammy Awards: The favorites for the Grammy Awards are two new comers Acoustic Soul singer India. Arie with seven Grammy nominations, and J Records phenomenon Alicia Keys with six nominations. There has not been a female since Lauryn Hill to be the favorite for so many awards.

Here are highlight categories for the 2002 Grammy Awards:

Record of the year: India. Arie *Video*, Alicia Keys *Fallin*, Outkast *Ms. Jackson*, Train *Drops of Jupiter*, and U2's *Walk On*; Considering that India Arie's song *Video* was the first touch on the redundancy of music within the last few years. Arie is the favorite to win the category.

Album of the year: India. Arie, *Acoustic Soul*, Bob Dylan, *Love and Theft*, Outkast, *Stankonia*, U2 *All That You Can't Leave Behind*, and Various Artist *O Brother, Where Art Thou*;

This category is up for grabs, but with five remarkably different albums under their belt bringing back the theme album concept pioneered by The Beatles, Outkast should take home the Grammy.

Song of the Year: Train *Drops of Jupiter*, Alicia Keys *Fallin*, Nelly Furtado *I'm Like A Bird*, U2 *Stuck In The Moment You Can't Get Out Of*, India. Arie *Video*; And the winner will be...hopefully Alicia Keys. Who else composes, plays, arranges, sings and writes her own music in this day in age?

Best New Artist: India. Arie, Nelly Furtado, David Gray, Alicia Keys, Linkin Park; Alicia Keys, 20 years old, all around entertainer and musician, the Grammy is as good as hers.



Best Vocal Pop

Album: Nelly Furtado *Whoa, Nelly*, Janet Jackson *All For You* (Original Version), Bob Dylan *Songs from the West Coast*, N Sync *Celebrity*, Sade *Lover Rock*; She has how many albums to date? How much experience does she have? She can make you dance, and she's Janet, Ms. Jackson if you're nasty.

Best Female Pop Vocal Performance:

Nelly Furtado *I'm Like A Bird*, Faith Hill *There You'll Be*, Janet

Jackson *Someone to Call My Lover*, Sade *By Your Side*, Lucinda Williams *Essence*; No one can match the sultry vocal stylings of Sade, she deserves this Grammy. The song is true poetry, listen to the lyrics.

Best Male Pop Vocal



Cantrell Hit *'Em Up Style* (Oops!), Brian McKnight *Love of My Life*, India. Arie *Video*; Brian McKnight singing soprano, the lyrics, expect to hear this song sung at marriages along with *Ribbon In The Sky*.

Best Female R&B Performance:

Aaliyah *Rock the Boat* India. Arie *Video*, Mary J. Blidge *Family Affair*, Blu Cantrell Hit *'Em Up Style* (Oops!), Alicia Keys *Fallin*, Jill Scott *A Long Walk*; I say it will either be *Video* or *A Long Walk*.

Best Male R&B Vocal Performance:

Case *Missing You*, Maxwell *Lifetime*, Brian McKnight *Love Of My Life*, Musiq Soulchild *Love*, and Usher *U Remind Me*; Though he is not the greatest vocalist, his take on music is excellent, Musiq should take home the trophy.

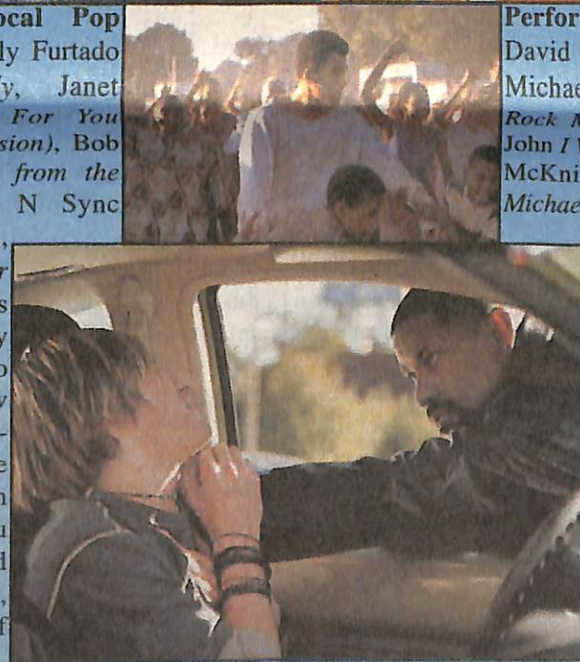
Best R&B Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocal: City High *What Would You Do?*, Destiny's Child *Survivor*, Faith Evans featuring Carl Thomas *Can't Believe*, The Isley Brothers *Contagious*, 112 *Peaches And Cream*; over three decades in the music industry, then singing narratives in a song. The Isley Brothers will win.

Best Rap Album: Eve *Scorpion*, Ja Rule *Pain Is Love*, Jay-Z *The Blueprint*, Ludacris *Back for the First Time*, OutKast *Stankonia*; Too close to call, don't be surprised if OutKast is the victor though.

Best Rap Solo Performance: Afroman *Because I Got High*, DMX *Who We Be*, Missy Elliot *Get Ur Freak On*, Jay-Z *Izzo (H.O.V.A.)*, Nelly *Ride With Me*; None of these songs are all that great, but let's just hope that Afroman does not win.

Best Rap Performance by a Duo or a Group: Gorillaz *Clint Eastwood*, Ja Rule featuring Vita *Put It On Me*, Jay-Z featuring Beanie Sigel and Memphis Bleek *Change the Game*, OutKast *Ms. Jackson*, P. Diddy featuring Black Rob and Mark Curry *Bad Boy for Life*; Ja Rule will get it. Who doesn't know that chorus. He is the master of the rap ballads.

See "Hollywood" on page 16



PHOTOS COURTESY OF YAHOO, DARK HORIZONS AND IMDB.COM

Top 1 to 5: Alicia Keys is up for several Grammy's this year and Atlanta based rap sensation Outkast looks to grab the best rap album statue.

Bottom: People are pulling for Will Smith to win the Best Actor in a drama award at the Golden Globes but Denzel Washington might have a hold on it.

guilt trip either, will take this one. Her album was versatile, most of her albums songs are repeatable. The album was genius, hands down.

Best R&B Song: Erykah Badu *Didn't Cha Know*, Alicia Keys *Fallin*, Missy Elliot *Get Ur Freak On*, Blu

Community View

Local College Briefs

Meharry Medical College received a 2002 Trumpet Award for its outstanding contributions to the health and well-being of African Americans, and Americans in general, on Monday, Jan. 7, 2002 in Atlanta.

Meharry is only the second higher education institution to receive a Trumpet Award in the ten-year history of the gala ceremony. Turner Broadcasting System, Inc. and Executive Producer Xernona Clayton created the Trumpet Awards in 1993 to recognize African-American achievers in fields as diverse as law, politics, entertainment, education, literature, medicine, sports and business. Other honorees this year included actor Sidney Poitier, former Atlanta Mayor and U.S. Ambassador Andrew Young, actress Cicely Tyson, magazine publisher John H. Johnson, radio personality Tom Joyner and entrepreneur Ted Turner.

Since its founding in 1876, Meharry has been a leading producer of African-American health professionals and biomedical scientists and is particularly known for its emphasis on the special primary health care needs of minorities, and the poor and disadvantaged of America.

The Trumpet Awards was videotaped and is scheduled to air on TBS Superstation, Saturday, Feb. 23 at 7 p.m.(ET)

Belmont University has become the only private university in Tennessee that has both undergraduate and graduate business programs accredited by the Association to Advanced Collegiate Schools of Business.

The AACSB is the most prestigious accrediting organization for bachelors, masters and doctoral degree programs in business administration and accounting. To obtain accreditation, business programs must satisfy a wide range of standards relating to curriculum, faculty resources, admissions, degree requirements, library and computer facilities and other criteria.

Belmont was visited by business school deans during the first week of November 2001 and their programs were evaluated by the accreditation standards that are widely expected in the educational community.

Belmont was granted accreditation status in January 2002 after a vote of the full board of AACSB International.

Fisk University's alumnus and president Dr. Carolynn Reid-Wallace was interviewed for New Channel 5+'s broadcast of The United Negro College Fund's annual star-studded fund-raiser "An Evening of Stars," A Celebration of Educational Excellence on Jan. 5, 2002. Two Fisk senior students, Dale Williams and LaTonya Capers, were also profiled locally for the event.

"An Evening of Stars" featured performances by numerous Black artists including Boyz II Men, Destiny's Child, Tyrese, Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds, Yolanda Adams and many others. It also featured compelling stories from UNCF students and inspiring messages about the nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

According to William H. Gray, III, President and CEO of UNCF, for every dollar collected for donations toward the scholarship fund, more than 85 cents goes directly to supporting the college ambitions of needy young people.

The UNCF, founded in 1994, is the nation's oldest African American higher education assistance organization. It has 39 member colleges and universities and has raised nearly \$1.8 billion to promote higher education. It has also helped more than 300,000 students earn undergraduate and graduate degrees.

SOURCE--Belmont, Fisk, and Meharry press releases and Web sites.

Don't Quit

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're treading seems all uphill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit =
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.

Life is unstable with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns,
And many a person turns about
When they might have won had they stuck it out.
Don't give up though the pace seems slow =
You may succeed with another blow.

Often the struggler has given up
When he might have captured the victor's cup;
And he learned too late when the night came down,
How close he was to the golden crown.
Success is failure turned inside out =
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt =
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit =
It's when things seem worst that you mustn't quit.

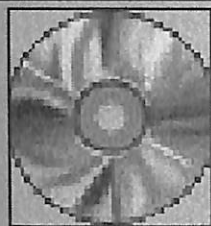
Win your choice of \$2500 cash or
\$1000 cash and a vacation package to Orlando,
Las Vegas, Europe, Mexico or a Caribbean Cruise.

\$2500 Knowledge, Essay, Song and Poetry Contest

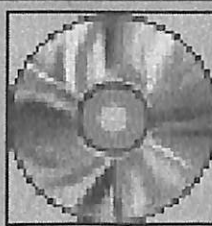
- 1 Select the topic or subject of your choice (e.g. Math, Science, Business, Academics, Recipes, Investing, Exercise and Fitness, Relationships, Home & Garden, Essays, Short Stories, Poetry, Songs and many more.)
- 2 Share your knowledge (e.g. how to study for an exam, how to earn a scholarship, how to resolve professional conflicts, course study notes, household or etiquette tips, cooking recipes, investment tips, etc.) or provide an original short-story, poem, song or essay.
- 3 Pay a minimal "one time" entry fee of only \$2.95 per entry. (You may enter as many times as you like.)
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Visit www.SmartTips.Org for terms and conditions.
WWW.SmartTips.Org, it's not simply the RIGHT choice it's the SMART choice!

Arts & Entertainment



Compact DISCussions



Genesis - 4

The hip-hop world's dread-headed ball of

Now and *Break Yo Neck* give any Busta fan solid reasons to go and get this album.

From the moment

Overall the album is a welcomed treat for fans of Bus-A-Bus and with joints featuring Flipmode family members Rah Digga on



Busta Rhymes
GENESIS
www.bustarhymes.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF J RECORDS

Busta Rhymes

hyperactive energy goes for the gold on his latest LP *Genesis*. Making his home at the new hit making label J. Records, his new release showcases air-tight production on nearly every track and frankly, that is one of the factors that helps this album make the grade.

It almost seems as if Busta felt that he needed to make a comeback, after he nearly threw himself out of the game with the Titanic tragedy of 2000's *Anarchy*.

Though he's not spitting the same mind bending, head bobbing and fast firing rhymes Busta is revered for, this album will be one to keep his name in lights and you on the dance floor. Dance floor friendly jams like *Till You Make It Hurt*, and *Everybody Rise Again*, not to mention heavy radio players *What It Is Right*

you press play you get a rich mix of old school style rhyme play, new school flow on the dealings of the day and almost supersonic futuristic beats give the tightest possible backdrop to his lyrical landscapes.

The album is nearly a classic giving the best it can with today's hip-hop checklist. That list being the rhymes, the hype guest spots and solid production.

The album's draw back comes into play when you come to the realization that an mc famous for being true to the game and all about the knowledge of getting buck wild, has the nerve to team up with P. Diddy, on the shamefully and painfully delivered *Pass the Courvoisier*. As if the American public needed another reminder that rappers got bank,

Betta Stay Up In Your House, and hot cuts like *Full Moon* (Produced by Dr. Dre) make the album tight enough to put it in your collection. Well folks, Busta has definitely dropped the bomb, now watch it blow up. Gregory Brand•

Got the scoop

on a hot CD?

Well let The

Meter

know and we'll

DISCuss it.

Call A&E Editor

Alan C. Beard

at

963-5555.

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Arts & Entertainment

*Keepin It Real**Martin Lawrence Picks Up the Pieces*

By Alan C. Beard
A&E Editor

On Jan. 6, 2001, the Tennessee Performing Arts Center's Jackson Hall was filled to capacity with legions of fans of Martin Lawrence.

The start time on the tickets read 7:30 p.m. but hey CP [Colored People] time is something else. There were whisperings about him not showing up.

talked about himself. He let us in and gave us the real story. His version was a lot funnier than the media's. He spoke out against them on stage and in his introduction. I ain't mad at cha Martin.

This was truly one of those events where you had to be there. I felt like I was watching a survivor.

One of Lawrence's funniest lines of the night was when he was referring to his recovery. He told the doctor, while he was out of it, "You know pit bulls wear

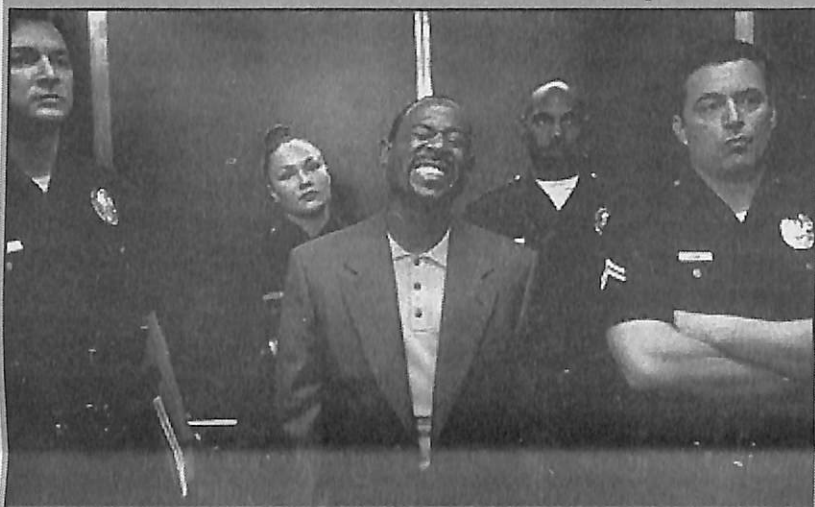


PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB.COM

Comedian Martin Lawrence described a similar situation to this in his stand-up comedy routine here in Nashville Jan. 6.

The lights went dim at 8 p.m. but Lawrence didn't come out. Well, shortly after the lights went out, a screen dropped down- Martin was in the house. The audience was treated to a 10-minute retrospective of the star's career so far. The ups and downs were highlighted and after it all, he still had his sense of humor.

The crowd gave Marty-Mart a standing ovation when he finally appeared. Looking vibrant and having slimmed down. He took a hold of Nashville for two and a half-hours and wouldn't let go.

I can repeat nothing that he said in this column but he took it back to his Def Comedy Jam days- Not as raw as he was in "You So Crazy." However, Lawrence took time to really reflect on the situations he was talking to the crowd about. You always knew it was coming [the joke], cause my man is hilarious.

He talked about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., girls with hair so short they have to roll it with rice/he's seen peaches with more hair, but most importantly he

Jordans."

The bottom line here is the man is back and he looks to be around for some time. With Blue Streak 2 hitting theaters this year, look for Lawrence to get back on track at the box office. After he left the stage all I could think of was Ooh Wee! (It's an inside joke)•

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Arts & Entertainment

Yet to be released and smaller films could have easily topped list of films for 2001

Continued from page 10

Satine has been promised to by the owner Harold Zidler played by Jim Broadbent. Toulouse-Lautrec (John Leguizamo) is also fun to watch. The musical score is also one of the main stars here. The rendition of *Roxanne* by Jacek Koman who plays the narcoleptic Argentinean is powerful. With contemporary songs that are really energized, the film takes



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB.COM

off and never comes down. As McGregor belts out Elton John's, *Your Song* the screen comes alive. There has not been a musical in Hollywood of this scale in some time. And for what it's worth it told the truth, was beautiful and I loved every minute of it.

3. A Beautiful Mind - The story of John Forbes Nash Jr. would be a red-blooded adventure if you saw it through his eyes. Russell Crowe stars as Nash the brilliant mathematician, Nobel Prize winner and schizophrenic. Ron Howard (*How the Grinch Stole Christmas*) directs and takes us into Nash's psyche. However, it is Crowe's performance, which will earn him his third Oscar nomination in as many years, that drives this film. His intense when he needs to be, humorous at times and powerful in the end. Jennifer Connelly (*Dark City*) is also very good as his supportive wife Alicia. Ed Harris also stars in the film, as a very poignant figment of Nash's imagination. *A Beautiful Mind* delivers in its ability to take you on the same shocking odyssey, as those who were closest to Nash. Howard has finally hit his mark here and proves the mind is truly a terrible thing to waste.

4. Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Ring - J.R.R. Tolkien created a literary masterpiece with his books. So the challenge for New Zealand director Peter Jackson was that much greater. Fans would lynch him if he ran afoul of the classic. Rest assured he has given Tolkien's vision, a whole new beginning. This first installment in the already filmed trilogy is breath taking. Jackson took the time to familiarize non-readers with the story of Middle Earth. Elijah Wood (*The Faculty*) stars as Frodo Baggins the Hobbit who has been entrusted with the ring, by his uncle Bilbo played by Ian Holm (*From Hell*) Ian McKellan (*X-men*) is Gandalf the wizard who helps guide the fellowship, Viggo Mortenson (*The Perfect Murder*) is Strider a great warrior, Sean Astin (*Rudy*) is Samwise Gamgee (Frodo's trusted pal), Liv Tyler (*Armageddon*) is Arwen the elf who gives up immortality because of her love for Strider, Cate Blanchett (*Bandits*) is Galadriel another very powerful elf and Christopher Lee is the wizard Saruman who has chosen the dark side. The look of this film is what gives it that extra boost. There is never a dull moment and even at the end you know that there is still so much more to come.

Tom Wilkinson and Sissy Spacek in the not wide released *In the Bedroom*.

5. Shrek - This film was drop dead hilarious. It was so original and the fact that it was a cartoon makes it that much better. It's not just for kids it's for everyone who has a sense of humor. The makers poke fun at everything Disney has ever done and they do it with great comedic style. Mike Myers of Austin Powers fame plays the title character and Cameron Diaz (*Vanilla Sky*) is the beautiful princess (or is she beautiful) he must save and ultimately falls for. But it is Eddie Murphy, who steals the show here as Donkey. Everything that comes out of his mouth tickles the funny bone. The film took the look of the Toy Story films even further. *Monsters Inc.* and *Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius* came along later in the year but *Shrek* was the animation breakthrough of the new millennium.

Disclaimer: I was not able to view the following films because either they were not released when the paper went to print or not playing anywhere in my neighborhood. This is very discouraging, when cineplexes do not show smaller independent films in urban neighborhoods, assuming minorities won't appreciate them. Get it together! We can appreciate them and want to.

Here are the films that would have probably been on my list, making me expand it to a top ten instead of five: *Black Hawk Down* based on a true story about a group of soldiers surrounded by hostile rebels in Somalia (opening January 18), *Monster's Ball* stars Halle Berry as Leticia Musgrove and Billy Bob Thornton as Hank and centers around Musgrove's relationship with Hank, a death row prison guard who has just executed her husband played by Sean "P. Diddy" Combs. (opening January 18), *In the Bedroom* has been called one of the best films of 2001, by tons of critics starring Tom Wilkinson and Sissy Spacek as a concerned mother for her son, who's son is about to start graduate school but is dating a woman in her 30's with two kids and is separated from an abusive husband. (not released in my area). I saw *Vanilla Sky* and *Ocean's 11* and they would have rounded out my ten.

Be sure to check all of these films out on video or at your local theater when you get a chance. You won't be sorry and you'll see most of them at the Oscars in March.*

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Arts & Entertainment

Hollywood Foreign Press honors best in film and television

Continued from page 11

Best Rap/ Song Collaboration: Eve featuring Gwen Stefani *Let Me Blow Your Mind*, Ja Rule featuring Case *Livin' It Up*, Jagged Edge featuring Nelly *Where The Party At?*, Ludacris featuring Nate Dogg *Area Codes*, Mystic & Planet Asia *W*; Eve diversifying her style with the No Doubt lead singer should bring home the award.

Now for this year's Golden Globe nominees. Not many breakthrough performances or movies were apparent within the last year, but here are the top nominees in film and television.

Film

Motion Picture, Drama: *A Beautiful Mind*, *In the Bedroom*, *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*, *The Man Who Wasn't There*, *Muholland Drive*; It is a commencement of a series of masterpieces...*Lord of the Rings*

Best Actress, Drama: Halle Berry, *Monster's Ball*; Judi Dench, *Iris*; Nicole Kidman, *The Others*; Sissy Spacek, *In the Bedroom*; Tilda Swinton, *The Deep End*; Since I have not seen *Monster's Ball* yet, I give it to Nicole Kidman, she out did herself.

Best Actor, Drama: Russell Crowe, *A Beautiful Mind*; Will Smith, *Ali*; Kevin Spacey, *The Shipping News*; Billy Bob Thornton, *The Man Who Wasn't There*; Denzel Washington, *Training Day*; No competition here, Denzel without a doubt. Will Smith is not that Jiggy.

Motion Picture, Musical/Comedy: *Bridget Jones's Diary*, *Gasford Park*, *Legally Blonde*, *Moulin Rouge*, *Shrek*; *Shrek*, you cannot go wrong with Mike Myers, Cameron Diaz, and Eddie Murphy in the same movie.

Best Actress, Musical/Comedy: Thoria

Birch, *Ghost World*; Cate Blanchett, *Bandits*; Nicole Kidman, *Moulin Rouge*; Reese Witherspoon, *Legally Blonde*; Renee Zellweger *Bridget Jones's Diary*; You saw her first in *Me, Myself, and Irene*? Yes, comedy at its best.

TV

Best Actor, Musical/Comedy: Tom Cavanagh, *Ed*; Kelsey Grammer, *Frasier*; Eric McCormack, *Will and Grace*; Frankie Muniz, *Malcolm in the Middle*, Charlie Sheen, *Spin City*; Frankie Muniz, if you watch the show he's the best kid actor since Fred Savage in *The Wonder Years*

Best Actress, Miniseries/TV Movie: Judy Davis, *Life with Judy Garland: Me and My Shadows*; Bridget Fonda, *No Ordinary Baby*; Hannah Taylor Gordon, *The Mists of Avalon*; Julianna Margulies, *The Mists of Avalon*; Leelee Sohier, *Uprising*; Emma Thompson, *Wit*; A disappointing category since the Jazz History miniseries was not nominated but Emma Thompson will walk away with the statue.

Best Actor, Miniseries/TV Movie: Kenneth Branagh, *Conspiracy*; James Franco, *James Dean*; Ben Kingsley, *Anne Frank*; Darmian Lewis, *Band of Brothers*; Barry Pepper, *61*; *Conspiracy*, exposed government secrets in an effective fashion.

The Golden Globes will air on Sunday, Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. on NBC and the Grammy Awards will air on Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. See who comes away with the gold for yourself.

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Sports

Up on Deck:

NFL Playoffs: The Big Picture

By Thomas Thorps

Sports Writer

Are you ready for some football? The regular season has ended in a fashionable manner and now it's time for the real deal, the post season. This is what we've all been waiting for so strap on your beer helmet, recline your lazy-boy, and put the women and children (who are not real football fans) to sleep. It's time to take a look at the National Football League playoffs, otherwise known as the "Big Picture."

The sincerest condolences go out to Tennessee Titans fans. Better luck next year. A look at those who did make the playoffs with the American Football Conference wild-card weekend is at hand.

The Miami Dolphins played host to the defending champion Baltimore Ravens in Sunday's game. Both teams played superb defense, and neither team has a running game to speak of so this game will come down to the play of the quarterbacks. The Ravens QB Elvis Grbac should prove most likely to respond to the scrutiny and criticism that he has endured throughout his first season with the club. Although Dolphins QB Jay Fiedler leads a team that has won seven consecutive first round playoff games. Still this matchup won't provide much for offensive fireworks in any sense.

Sunday's AFC wild-card game features the Oakland Raiders vs. the New York Jets in a rematch of the previous weeks thriller that was decided on a last second 52-yd field goal by Jets kicker John Hall. The Raiders running game struggled toward the end of the season, but it should be able to restart against the Jets considering the Jets are ranked 28th in the league against the run. Plus QB Rich Gannon and company do an excellent job with the short passing game. If the Jets could somehow muster up a run

defense in the next few days then they might have a chance, otherwise this game belongs to the Raiders and their rowdy fans.

Turning attention towards the NFC wild-card matchups, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers are packed and ready to take a trip to the city of brotherly love, the sight last year's wild-card loss, to face the Philadelphia Eagles. The key to this game will be how long can wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson keep from whining himself out of the game. At 6'4", 212 lbs. Johnson provides size mismatches with almost any defensive back in the league, but he cries far too often. The Eagles will have to focus their attention on getting into the backfield and hurrying QB Brad Johnson before he has a chance to get the ball to the other Johnson who has a team leading 106 receptions this season.

The most anticipated game of the wild-card weekend will be the San Francisco 49ers on the road at Lambeau Field against the Green Bay Packers. The last time these two teams met in the playoffs, the game was a classic decided on a last-second bomb from then-QB Steve Young to WR Terrell Owens. This year the names have changed but the potential



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPORTS ILLUSTRATED
Bears running back Anthony "The Train" Thomas and the Chicago Bears have their eyes on a championship.

In the Patriots camp, news has recently developed that disgruntled WR Terry Glenn has been suspended for the playoffs for repeatedly missing practices. [He hasn't been with the team all year so it really won't make much of a difference.] The Patriots are led by a group of offensive surprises. Running Back Antwoin Smith rushed for 1,157 yds, WR Troy Brown caught a team record 101 balls and QB Tom Brady took over a team that was 0-2 and lead them to an 11-3 record under his helm.

The Pittsburgh Steelers are another team that surprised a lot of people with their play. They had one of the best defenses in the NFL this year, and RB Jerome Bettis led the NFL in rushing for

remains the same. The key factor in this game won't be the players, but the weather, and well maybe one player. Green Bay QB Brett Favre is a perfect 29-0 all time at home when the temperature is 34 degrees or below. This favors the Packers, but doesn't take anything away from the 49ers explosive offense and the All-Pro season turned in by QB Jeff Garcia.

There are four other teams waiting and watching these wild-card matchups anticipating who they might play in the following week. In the AFC the teams are the New England Patriots and the Pittsburgh Steelers.

most of the year before being sidelined with a hamstring injury. But the biggest surprise of this team has been the play of QB Kordell Stewart who earned a Pro Bowl bid at quarterback and, more importantly, played well enough to earn his nickname of "Slash" back. Look for the Steelers to make a run to the Super Bowl similar to the one of 1995, but remember that saying it and doing it are two different things.

In the NFC there are the St. Louis Rams and the Chicago Bears. The Rams, who have home-field advantage throughout the playoffs, may look invincible but their weaknesses have been exploited in both Rams losses at home to the New Orleans Saints and the Bucs. This proves that the Rams can be beat at home. QB Kurt Warner may be the MVP of the league but Marshall Faulk, fresh off his record setting fourth consecutive 2,000 total yard season, holds the key to any success the Rams have in the post season.

The Chicago Bears are no longer the "Bad News Bears". They are the "Monsters of the Midway" and please don't get them twisted. "Da Bears" have single-handedly put the Chicago sports scene back on the map. The Bears have the best run-defense in the NFL and are led on that side of the ball by Pro Bowl linebacker Brian Urlacher, the third year pro who's a beast. There aren't enough words that can describe his game this year. On offense the Bears are led by rookie RB Anthony Thomas out of the University of Michigan. Thomas has set the Bears rookie rushing record with 1,183 yds on the ground this year. Beware of the Bears, after all they've been hibernating since 1985. Needless to say they're already in the studio making a remix to the timeless classic "Super Bowl Shuffle".

To all you Chi-Town Bear haters, see you Feb. 3, 2002, in New Orleans at the Super Bowl.

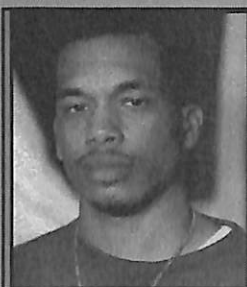
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Sports

Talkin' I.S.H. (Intelligent Sports Humor)



**Marcus
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Once Again!

Over the holidays, audiences across the nation were treated to a work of pure cinematic genius. It was the story of a man who embodied a multitude of values of his culture. A man who, despite his humble beginnings, came to be a symbol of what it means to be a successful and honorable African-American male. In his prime, he managed to capture the attention of the entire world, if only for a fleeting moment. A man who was never shy to attention rightly bestowed upon him, and used every opportunity he had to reaffirm his position in our minds, and our hearts, of who he was and why we loved him so much.

He meant so many things to so many different people. In his most menial sense he was a world class entertainer who couldn't fathom the thought of disappointing a crowd. More importantly though he was a figure who stayed in the midst of enormous controversy. There were those in the community who never approved of his methods from the beginning. This aspect of his life eventually caught up with him and led to an extremely dark period of his life.

But like the Black super hero he

was, he rose from the ashes to reclaim his glory, and our faith along with it. The most amazing thing about his resurgence was the fact that he never changed a thing, we (his audience) had to change. A man of principle, he stuck to his guns when others were anxious to leave his side once the times got hard. Relying on his own confidence, and the love of a

overdue for such an accurate representation. I thank all of you wonderful people at VH1 for bringing us *Too Legit: The MC Hammer Story*. (Ali Bumaye!)

What's Crackin'?: Egg shells in the morning knucka! A lot has happened in the wide and wacky world of sports since we last spoke (Juanita! Holla at ya boy!), but we'll have to talk about that at

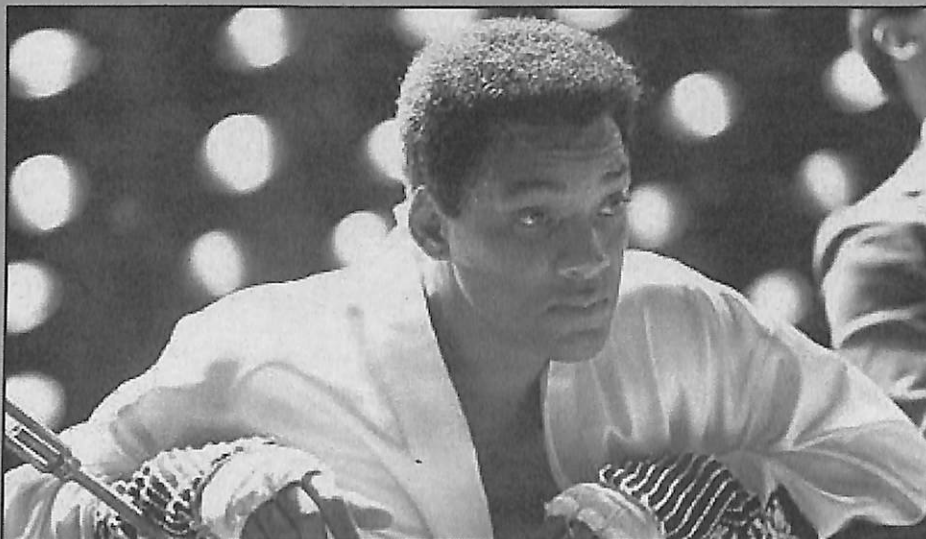


PHOTO COURTESY OF SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

Will Smith was "Too Legit" in his portrayal of Muhammad Ali.

good woman, he waited for the rest of the world to come back around to the way he saw things, knowing all along that they would.

It is for this reason that I praise the people responsible for bringing us the life story of a man who achieved all of this and more. The way they captured his essence on the screen by assembling the great actors that they did. Re-creating the time period in which he was the most prominent was a thing of beauty. All of this and more for a man who was long

a later juncture. No news was more disturbing than that piece of ish movie made about the most important/influential athlete of the 20th century (tied with Mike, don't trip). Sorry ya'll but that movie (*Ali* for those who don't get the concept of sarcasm) was just bad. The worst part about it was the fact that the acting was tight. Will Smith surprised me by carrying the role of the champ for three friggin' hours. Jon Voight was the infamous-slow talking announcer Howard Cosell, and Jaime Foxx "did some things we did-

n't think he could do" in bringing behind-the-scenes inspirational guru Drew "Bundini" Brown to life (did you see his fade, now that's dedication). These were the good things.

"B-b-b-but wait it gets worse!": The very first scene in the movie will have you squirming in your seat thinking about sneaking out and going to see *How High* in the theater next door (good movie by the way). Director Michael Mann (now how can I say this without offending anybody ah uff it, I can't) tried to make the film too white. There's no other way to put it. The final product ends up being a compilation of long drawn out scenes with "Mama-Call-Him-Clay" giving blank stares (for real cuz, how long did they have dude staring at that painting on the wall in Africa). The movie doesn't provide any new information about the life of Muhammad Ali and basically serves as a public relations machine making "the champ" more accessible to the larger, pigment challenged audience.

Sidebar: Miss Jordan if ya nasty!

And Finally: After three hours, and two buckets of popcorn (that ish ain't cheap) I expected a lot more out of that movie. I already knew that dude was a great boxer, tell me something else. I just feel like there was definitely an obstacle keeping him from getting the movie right. Tell me something about his childhood. Or better yet, I wanna know how dude got knocked half retarded like he is today. I'm not calling Michael Mann racist or anything like that. That would be the farthest thing from the truth. But if say ol', Spike Lee directed this film, I would've stayed for another three hours."

Juanita Jordan files for divorce from basketball star husband, Michael Jordan

By Thomas Thorps
Sports Writer

The throne that Michael Jordan had constructed through an illustrious basketball career has recently begun to tarnish as he struggles in his latest attempt to reclaim the status he once had as the greatest athlete in sports.

However, his latest obstacle has nothing to do with basketball. Juanita Jordan, his wife of 12 years, has recently filed for divorce.

Mrs. Jordan reportedly filed papers for divorce on Friday, Jan. 4, 2002 in the Chicago suburb of Lake County, Ill. According to ESPN.com the six-page divorce petition said past attempts at reconciliation have failed and future ones "would be impractical and not in the best interest of the family." Mrs. Jordan is requesting full custody of their three children, Jefferey 13, Marcus 11 and Jasmine 9. She is also requesting the 25,000 square-foot home in Highland Park, Ill, along with half of Michael Jordan's earnings.

It was estimated in the September issue of *Forbes* Fortune 500 magazine that Jordan's wealth is estimated at \$398 million. In 1997 and 1998, Jordan's last two seasons with the Bulls, his salary topped \$60 million.

It was also reported by the New York Post that Juanita Jordan hired a Chicago private investigator to observe Michael Jordan for the past four years prior to filing for divorce. A source close to Mrs. Jordan was cited as saying that the private investigator followed Jordan from Chicago to Florida and back, watching him in public interacting with at least six women.

A source close to the couple reportedly told the Chicago Sun-Times that Juanita Jordan had previously threatened a divorce three times and she finally followed through after Jordan made his recent comeback to basketball, noting that it would keep him away from his family for long periods of time.

In a joint statement released by the couple, through a publicist at Jordan's agent David Falk's office in Washington D.C., said that the decision "is one I hope that the media and the public will understand and respect our family's desire and need for privacy during this diffi-

cult period in our lives."

Indeed this isn't the first time that Michael Jordan has faced scrutinizing situations. Jordan's personal life is constantly under the spotlight, most notably in 1993 after the murder of his father, along with the allegations of gambling a few years back.

Jordan will make his first appearance as an opposing player of the Bulls in Chicago on Jan. 19.

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